

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Schaldach, et al.

Examiner:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 37 CFR §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed with the application papers in the case, so it is timely filed without payment of a fee. 37 CFR §1.97(b).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25.

This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(c).

One (1) U.S. patent and five (5) foreign patent documents are listed on the attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of each document is enclosed. Also enclosed, but not listed on the form, is a copy of a search report dated 20 July 2001 from the German Patent Office on German application 100 50 971.1, on which this US application claims priority.

The German search report is in the German language, but it uses the international conventions for citation of prior art.

All six references are specifically cited in the German search report. All references are in English.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information known to the inventor or contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to each of the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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